



The U.S. is wrapping up a pier to bring aid to Gaza by sea. But danger and uncertainty lie ahead

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the coming days, the U.S. military in the eastern Mediterranean is expected to jab one end of a hulking metal dock — the length of five U.S. football fields — into a beach in northern Gaza. And that may be the end of the easy part for the Biden administration's two-month-long, \$320 million effort to open a sea route to get humanitarian aid into Gaza, with dangers and uncertainties ahead for aid delivery teams as fighting surges and the plight of starving Palestinians grows more dire. For President Joe Biden, the Pentagon's new floating pier and causeway are a gamble, an attempted workaround to the challenges of getting aid into Gaza from intensifying war and the restrictions its ally Israel has placed at land crossings since Hamas' deadly attacks on Israel launched the conflict in October.



In this image provided by the U.S. Army, soldiers assigned to the 7th Transportation Brigade (Expeditionary) and sailors attached to the MV Roy P. Benavidez assemble the Roll-On, Roll-Off Distribution Facility (RRDF), or floating pier, off the shore of Gaza on April 26, 2024.

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The U.S. is wrapping up a pier to bring aid to Gaza by sea. But danger and uncertainty lie ahead

Continued from Front

Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder, the Pentagon press secretary, said Tuesday that humanitarian groups were ready for the first shipments through the U.S. maritime route. "In the coming days, you can expect to see this effort underway. And we are confident that that we will be able to, working with our NGO partners, ensure that aid can be delivered," he said.

Relief groups are watching to see if Israeli officials will allow a freer flow of food and other supplies through this sea route than they have by land and follow through on pledges to protect aid workers. They say protections for humanitarian workers have not improved and point to aid already piling up at Gaza's border crossings, waiting for decisions by Israeli officials to distribute it. Because land crossings could bring in all the needed aid if Israeli officials allowed, the U.S.-built pier and sea route "is a solution for a problem that doesn't exist," said Scott Paul, an associate director of the Oxfam humanitarian organization.

"Like all of the land crossings, it comes down to the consent of the government of Israel" on allowing aid through its screening process and ensuring aid teams are safe to distribute it within Gaza, Paul said.

"If Israel is comfortable with allowing the maritime corridor to function ... then it will work in a limited way," he said this week, as the U.S. military said it was waiting out bad weather to put the pier and dock in place. "And if they don't, it won't. Which is why it's a very, very expensive alternative."

Ophir Falk, foreign policy adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, said Tuesday that the country had enabled the entrance of thousands of aid trucks into Gaza and would continue to do so. It repeated accusations that Hamas was disrupting aid distribution by hijacking and attacking convoys. U.S. State Department spokesman Matthew Miller



U.S. Secretary of State, Antony Blinken, third right, stands between Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, third left, and UN Senior Humanitarian and Reconstruction Coordinator for Gaza, Sigrid Kaag, right, at the Kerem Shalom border crossing in Kerem Shalom, Israel, May 1, 2024.

Associated Press

said this month that there was only one major incident of Hamas commandeering aid trucks.

The Israeli military said in a statement Tuesday that it will keep acting in line with international law to distribute aid to Gaza. It also has previously said there are no limits on aid, it is trying to keep crossings open despite Hamas attacks and has blamed the U.N. for problems with distribution.

With food and aid in short supply in Gaza throughout the war, the head of the U.N. World Food Program and others say that famine has taken hold in northern Gaza and is spreading south.

After an Israeli attack killed seven World Central Kitchen workers on an aid mission on April 1, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged to Biden to allow in more aid and safeguard those workers.

Last month, truckloads of aid entering Gaza increased by 13%, said Anastasia Moran, an associate director for the International Rescue Committee, a global humanitarian group. But the daily average of trucks entering in April still was about half the average of 500 trucks a day that crossed before the war. Moran also said Israeli officials have denied permission

to roughly two-thirds of aid missions that humanitarian groups have asked to run into northern Gaza, where starvation is the worst.

Now, Israel's military operation in the southern city of Rafah to root out Hamas militants has closed one of Gaza's two main border crossings, while a spate of Hamas attacks has crippled operations at the other crossing, cutting fuel and aid deliveries into Gaza.

It's unclear how much the cutoffs and surge in fighting will affect American-led efforts to deliver food, emergency nutrition for children and other aid to be brought in via the sea route. But humanitarian operations are under threat throughout Gaza, aid officials said.

"The whole aid operation runs on fuel," said Jeremy Konyndyk, president of Refugees International. "So if fuel is cut off, the aid operation collapses, and it collapses quickly."

Safety is another essential need for humanitarian workers — and that too is in short supply. Oxfam, Save the Children, the International Rescue Committee and other organizations assert that Israel's government has failed to make the promised changes to protect humanitarian missions within Gaza

from Israeli attack.

On Monday, an attack on a U.N. convoy killed an Indian staff member and injured another staffer. The United Nations said Tuesday that the convoy was clearly marked and its planned movements had been announced in advance to Israeli authorities. Israeli officials said they were investigating and denied being told of the convoy's whereabouts.

Around the world, the process of humanitarian workers communicating their planned movements to combatants and getting clearance to move is known as "deconfliction."

The problem in Gaza, before and after the World Central Kitchen killings, is that Israel has aid teams communicate their plans to the civilian Israeli agency that oversees Palestinian territory, said Paul, the Oxfam official. But unlike the usual operations in other countries, aid teams typically receive no word back from that agency, no assurance that their plans have been passed along to Israeli forces on the ground and no assurances of safety, Paul said.

"There's still not a functioning humanitarian notification system or deconfliction system," said Alexandra Saieh, head of humanitarian poli-

cy and advocacy for Save the Children. Human Rights Watch on Tuesday pointed to eight Israeli strikes on aid group lodgings and convoys whose locations, according to the organizations, had been passed along to Israeli authorities in advance.

The rights group quoted an aid official as saying that without security for these teams, vitally needed goods would pile up undelivered regardless of piers or shipments. Human Rights Watch did not identify the official, citing the person's security. The U.S. Agency for International Development, which is charged with helping organize and oversee the distribution of aid within Gaza that will be brought in through the U.S. sea route, said it would "continue to press Israel to create the conditions to ensure the safety of humanitarian actors and activities, open additional land crossings, remove impediments to the delivery of humanitarian aid and do far more to prevent the killings" of humanitarian workers and civilians.

The U.N. World Food Program and other humanitarian groups will do the actual delivery of aid from the sea route, USAID said. No U.S. troops will set foot in Gaza. The Israeli military is to handle security on shore, which has been a concern for the United Nations.

The WFP has emphasized the need for neutrality when delivering aid. The sea route can supplement land deliveries but "nothing can compete with truck convoys when it comes to volume of aid," said Abeer Etefa, a spokeswoman for the organization.

Even if deconfliction problems were solved, teams charged with delivering aid from the sea route would find Gaza a deadly place to operate, said Paul, the Oxfam official. The war has killed more than 35,000 Palestinians, Palestinian health officials say.

"Even a functioning deconfliction system isn't going to work in a free-fire zone," Paul said. □

Survey finds 8,000 women a month got abortion pills despite their states' bans or restrictions

By LAURA UNGAR and
GEOFF MULVIHILL
Associated Press

Thousands of women in states with abortion bans and restrictions are receiving abortion pills in the mail from states that have laws protecting prescribers, a new report shows.

Tuesday's release of the #WeCount survey shows about 8,000 women a month in states that severely restrict abortion or place limits on having one through telehealth were getting the pills by mail by the end of 2023, the first time a number has been put on how often the medical system workaround is being used. The research was conducted for the Society of Family Planning, which supports abortion rights.

An additional 8,000 women in states without bans or major restrictions on telehealth abortion were receiving pills each month through virtual appointments, the study showed.

In all, the survey counted about 90,000 monthly surgical or medication abortions offered by medical providers in 2023, higher than the previous year. Another study recently found that close to two-thirds of the total use pills.

The group found that by December 2023, providers in states with the protections were prescribing pills to about 6,000 women a month in states where abortion was banned at all stages of pregnancy or once cardiac activity can be detected — about six weeks, often before women realize they're pregnant. The prescriptions also were going to about 2,000 women a month in states where the local laws limit abortion pill prescriptions by telemedicine.

"People ... are using the various mechanisms to get pills that are out there," Drexel University law professor David Cohen said. This "is not surprising based on what we know throughout human history and across the world: People will find a way to terminate pregnancies they don't want."

Medication abortions typi-

cally involve a combination two drugs: mifepristone and misoprostol. The rise of these pills is one reason total abortion numbers increased even after the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in 2022.

A Pew Research Center poll conducted in April found that Americans are substantially more likely to say that medication abortion should be legal, rather than illegal, in their state. According to the poll, which didn't look at laws protecting prescribers, more than half of U.S. adults think medication abortion should be legal in their state, a fifth of them say it should be illegal, and about a quarter say they aren't sure.

After Roe was overturned, abortion bans took effect in most Republican-controlled states. Fourteen states now prohibit it with few exceptions, while three others bar it after about six weeks of pregnancy.

But many Democratic-controlled states went the opposite way. They've adopted laws intended to protect people in their states from investigations involving abortion-related crimes by authorities in other states. By the end of last year, five of those states — Colorado, Massachusetts, New York, Vermont and Washington — had such protections in place specifically to cover abortion pill prescriptions by telemedicine.

"If a Colorado provider provides telehealth care to a patient who's in Texas, Colorado will not participate in any Texas criminal action or civil lawsuit," Cohen said. "Colorado says: 'The care that was provided in our state was legal. It follows our laws because the provider was in our state.'"

Wendy Stark, president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of Greater New York, called the shield law there "a critical win for abortion access in our state."

James Bopp Jr., general counsel for the National Right to Life Committee, said the law where the abortion takes place — not where the prescriber is located — should

apply in pill-by-telemedicine abortions. That's the way it is with other laws, he said.

But unlike many other aspects of abortion policy, this issue hasn't been tested in court yet.

Bopp said that the only way to challenge a shield law in court would be for a prosecutor in a state with a ban to charge an out-of-state prescriber with providing an illegal abortion.

"It'll probably occur, and we'll get a legal challenge," Bopp said.

Researchers note that before the shield laws took effect, people were obtaining abortion pills from sources outside the formal medical system, but it's not clear exactly how many.



Boxes of the drug mifepristone sit on a shelf at the West Alabama Women's Center in Tuscaloosa, Ala., on March 16, 2022.

Associated Press

Alison Norris, an epidemiologist at Ohio State University and a lead researcher on the #WeCount report, said the group is not breaking down how many pills were shipped to each state with a ban "to maintain the highest level of protection for individuals re-

ceiving that care and providers providing that care." Dr. Rebecca Gomperts, director of Aid Access, an abortion pill supplier working with U.S. providers, said having more shield laws will make the health care system more resilient. □

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Driver of pickup that collided with farmworker bus in Florida, killing 8, is arrested on DUI charges

By **MIKE SCHNEIDER and TERRY SPENCER**

Associated Press

OCALA, Fla. (AP) — The Florida Highway Patrol has arrested the driver of a pickup truck that crashed into a farmworker bus early Tuesday, killing eight, on charges of driving under the influence-manslaughter.

Bryan Maclean Howard, 41, faces eight counts of DUI-Manslaughter, the FHP said in a statement. No further details were released, including what substance allegedly left Howard impaired.

Troopers said he was driving the 2001 Ford Ranger when it crossed into the center line on State Road 40, a straight but somewhat hilly two-lane road that passes through horse farms. The truck side-swiped the bus, causing it to veer off the road at about 6:40 a.m. It crashed through a fence and into a tree before overturning. In addition to the eight killed, at least 40 were injured.

It was not immediately known if Howard has an attorney, and no phone numbers for family members could be found. According to state records, Howard has previous arrests for driving with a suspended license, leaving the scene of an accident and marijuana possession. The accident happened in Marion County, about 80 miles (130 kilometers) north of Orlando. The workers had



This photo provided by the Marion County Fire Rescue Dept. shows a bus carrying 53 farmworkers that crashed and overturned early Tuesday, May 14, 2024 near Ocala, Fla. which is north of Orlando.

been headed to Cannon Farms in Dunellon, which has been harvesting watermelons. The bus ended up on its side, with its windows smashed and its emergency rear door and top hatch open. The truck came to a stop at the side of the road, with its air bag blown and extensive damage to the driver's side.

Federal statistics show that vehicle crashes were the leading cause of job-related deaths among farmworkers in 2022, the latest year available. They accounted for 81 of 171 fatalities. It was not im-

mediately not known if the bus had seat belts.

Authorities in several states have been pushing for greater regulations for the safety of farmworkers, who are overwhelmingly migrants. It is unknown if all the workers on the bus were migrants. The Mexican consulate in Orlando said it was making help available to any of the workers who are from its country.

The Labor Department announced new seat belt requirements for employer vehicles used for farmworkers on temporary visas, among

other worker protections that take effect June 28. The Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association has been opposed, calling the seat belt requirement "impractical."

State law requires seat belts for farmworker transport using smaller vehicles, weighing less than 10,000 pounds. "We will be closed today out of respect to the losses and injuries endured early this morning in the accident that took place to the Olvera Trucking Harvesting Corp.," Cannon Farms announced on its Facebook page. "Please pray with us

for the families and the loved ones involved in this tragic accident. We appreciate your understanding at this difficult time."

Cannon Farms describes itself as a family-owned operation that has farmed its land for more than 100 years. The company now focuses on peanuts and watermelons, which it sends to grocery stores across the U.S. and Canada. It is about 8 miles (13 kilometers) from the crash site. No one answered the phone at Olvera Trucking on Tuesday afternoon. The company recently advertised for a temporary driver who would bus workers to watermelon fields and then operate harvesting equipment. The pay was \$14.77 an hour. A Labor Department document shows Olvera recently applied for 43 H-2A workers to harvest watermelons at Cannon Farms this month. The company again offered a base rate of \$14.77 an hour, with promises of housing and transportation to and from the fields. The H-2A program allows U.S. employers or agents who meet certain regulatory requirements to bring foreign nationals into the country to fill temporary agricultural jobs. Florida farms employ more H-2A workers than any other state, about 50,000 a year, according to the Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association. □



The J. Edgar Hoover FBI Building is seen June 9, 2023, in Washington.

Associated Press

By **REBECCA SANTANA**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Foreign terrorist organizations or their supporters might target LG-

BQ-related events and venues as part of June's Pride Month, federal agencies warned in a recent public announcement.

FBI, Homeland Security warn of possible threats to LGBTQ events, including Pride Month activities

The FBI and the Department of Homeland Security issued the announcement May 10 to raise awareness of "foreign terrorist organizations (FTOS) or their supporters potential targeting of LGBTQIA+-related events and venues."

"Foreign terrorist organizations or supporters may seek to exploit increased gatherings associated with the upcoming June 2024 Pride Month," the agencies wrote. The announcement did not specify any locations or indicate the agencies were tracking any specific threats. According to the release,

foreign terrorist groups and supporters have in the past promoted anti-LGBTQ rhetoric and targeted related events.

The release noted that June 12 marks the eighth anniversary of the attack on the Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida. That was the deadliest attack on the LGBTQ community in U.S. history, leaving 49 people dead and 53 people wounded as "Latin Night" was being celebrated at the club. Gunman Omar Mateen was killed by SWAT team members after a three-hour standoff. He

had pledged allegiance to the Islamic State. The release also noted possible signs to watch out for that might indicate a potential problem, such as violent threats made online or in the mail. Potential attackers might also try to take photos of security-related equipment or access points at events; attempt to get into restricted areas or impersonate law enforcement personnel; or chat up staff at various venues to get information like what types of events they have upcoming and what the crowd sizes might be. □

U.S. calls on Iran to halt unprecedented weapons transfers to Yemen's Houthis for attacks on ships

By EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The United States called on Iran on Monday to halt its transfer of an "unprecedented" amount of weaponry to Yemen's Houthi rebels, enabling their fighters to carry out "reckless attacks" on ships in the Red Sea and elsewhere. U.S. deputy ambassador Robert Wood told the U.N. Security Council that if it wants to make progress toward ending the civil war in Yemen, it should collectively "call Iran out for its destabilizing role and insist that it cannot hide behind the Houthis." He said there is extensive evidence that Iran is providing advanced weapons, including ballistic and cruise missiles, to the Houthis in violation of U.N. sanctions.

"To underscore the council's concern regarding the ongoing violations of the arms embargo, we must do more to strengthen enforcement and deter sanctions violators," Wood said.

The Houthis say their attacks on shipping in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden are aimed at pressuring Israel to end its war with Hamas in Gaza, which has killed more than 35,000 Palestinians there. The war began after Hamas-led militants attacked Israel on Oct. 7, killing 1,200 people and taking some 250 others



A Houthi soldier stands on board of the Israeli Galaxy ship which was seized by the Houthis, in the port of Saleef, near Hodeidah, Yemen, Sunday, May 12, 2024.

Associated Press

hostage.

The Houthis have launched more than 50 attacks on shipping, seized one vessel and sunk another since November, the U.S. Maritime Administration said late last month.

Houthi attacks have dropped in recent weeks as the rebels have been targeted by a U.S.-led airstrike campaign in Yemen. Shipping through the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden has declined because of the threat.

Hans Grundberg, the U.N. special envoy for Yemen,

warned the council that "hostilities continue," even though there has been a reduction in attacks on commercial and military vessels in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean, as well as a reduction in the number of U.S. and British airstrikes on targets in Yemen.

He pointed to an announcement by the Houthis that they will "expand the scope of attacks," calling this "a worrisome provocation in an already volatile situation."

Russian Ambassador Vassily Nebenizia told the council

that the Israeli announcement on May 6 that it was starting its military operation in Gaza's southern city of Rafah, where 1.2 million Palestinians had sought safety, ratcheted up the spiral of escalation in the region "another notch further."

"There's no doubt that this will have an impact on the situation in Yemen's surrounding waters," he said, noting the Houthis' opposition to Israeli attacks that harm Palestinian civilians.

"We call for a swift cessation of the shelling of commercial

vessels and any other actions that hamper maritime navigation," Nebenizia added. He sharply criticized the United States and its Western allies, saying their "totally unjustified aggressive strikes" in Yemen violate the U.N. Charter. He said they further complicate an already complex situation in the Red Sea. The war between the Houthis and pro-government forces in Yemen backed by a coalition of Gulf Arab states has raged since 2014. The Houthis swept down from the mountains, seized much of northern Yemen and the country's capital, Sanaa, and forced the internationally recognized government to flee into exile to Saudi Arabia. Since then, more than 150,000 people have been killed by the violence and 3 million have been displaced. Fighting has decreased markedly in Yemen since a truce in April 2022, but there are still hotspots across the country.

Grundberg recalled that in December, the Houthis and the government "took a courageous step towards a peaceful solution" by agreeing to a series of commitments that would provide for a nationwide cease-fire, ensure desperately needed humanitarian aid, and initiate a political process to end the conflict. □

Migration tracking group says 76 million people were displaced within their countries in 2023

By JAMEY KEATEN

Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — Conflicts and natural disasters left a record nearly 76 million people displaced within their countries last year, with violence in Sudan, Congo and the Middle East driving two-thirds of new movement, a top migration monitoring group said Tuesday. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Center report found that the number of internally displaced people, or IDPs, has jumped by 50% over the past five years and roughly doubled in the past decade. It doesn't cover refugees — displaced people who

fled to another country. The report tracks two major sets of information. It counted 46.9 million physical movements of people in 2023 — sometimes more than once. In most of those cases, such as after natural disasters like floods, people eventually return home. It also compiles the cumulative number of people who were living away from their homes in 2023, including those still displaced from previous years. Some 75.9 million people were living in internal displacement at the end of last year, the report said, with half of those in sub-Saharan African countries. "The verdict

of this report is that we are in a deep crisis globally because we have never, ever recorded worse figures for internal displacement by violence, by conflict, by persecution," said Jan Egeland, secretary-general of the Norwegian Refugee Council, which runs the monitoring center. Almost 90% of the total displacement was attributed to conflict and violence, while some 10% stemmed from the impact of natural disasters. The displacement of more than 9 million people in Sudan at the end of 2023 was a record for a single country since the center started track-



Migrants aboard a rubber boat end up in the water while others cling on to a centifloat before being rescued by a team of the Sea Watch-3, around 35 miles away from Libya, Monday, Oct. 18, 2021.

Associated Press

ing such figures 16 years ago. That was an increase of nearly 6 million from the end of 2022. Sudan's conflict erupted in April 2023 as soaring ten-

sions between the leaders of the military and the rival Rapid Support Forces broke out into open fighting across the country. □

American sought after 'So I raped you' Facebook message detained in France on 2021 warrant

By **MARYCLAIRE DALE and NICOLAS VAUX-MONTAGNY**
Associated Press

LYON, France (AP) — An American accused of sexually assaulting a Pennsylvania college student in 2013 and later sending her a Facebook message that said, "So I raped you," has been detained in France after a three-year search.

A prosecutor in Metz, France, confirmed Tuesday that Ian Thomas Cleary, 31, of Saratoga, California, had been taken into custody last month and will be held pending extradition proceedings.

Cleary had been the subject of an international search since authorities in Pennsylvania issued a 2021 felony warrant in the case weeks after an Associated Press story detailed the reluctance of local prosecutors to pursue campus sex crimes.

The arrest warrant accuses Cleary of stalking an 18-year-old Gettysburg College student at a party, sneaking into her dorm and sexually assaulting her while she texted friends for help. He was a 20-year-old Gettysburg student at the time, but did not return to campus.

According to a French judicial official, Cleary was detained on the street in Metz on April 24 as part of a police check. He told a

U.S. Department of Justice
United States Marshals Service

WANTED By U.S. MARSHALS

Name: **CLEARY, IAN THOMAS**
Sex: **MALE**
Race: **WHITE OR WHITE HISPANIC**
Date of Birth: **01/26/1993**
Height: **6'01"**
Weight: **155 pounds**
Eyes: **Blue**
Hair: **Brown**
Skintone: **Fair**



This wanted poster provided by the U.S. Marshals shows Ian Cleary, of Saratoga, Calif.

Associated Press

magistrate that he had "arrived in France two or three years ago" from Albania and had only recently come to Metz, but did not have housing there, the official said. A French lawyer appointed to represent him did not immediately return a phone message seeking comment Tuesday.

Cleary, according to his online posts, had previously spent time in France and also has ties to California

and Maryland. His father is a tech executive in Silicon Valley, while his mother has lived in Baltimore. Neither he nor his parents have returned repeated phone and email messages left by the AP, including calls to his parents on Tuesday.

The Gettysburg accuser, Shannon Keeler, had a rape exam done the same day she was assaulted in 2013. She gathered witnesses and evidence and spent years

urging officials to file charges. She went to authorities again in 2021 after discovering the Facebook messages that seemed to come from Cleary's account.

"So I raped you," the sender had written in a string of messages.

"I'll never do it to anyone ever again."

"I need to hear your voice."

"I'll pray for you." According to the June 2021 warrant, police verified that

the Facebook account used to send the messages belonged to Ian Cleary. Adams County District Attorney Brian Sinnett, who filed it, did not immediately return a call Tuesday.

The AP does not typically name people who say they are sexual assault victims without their permission, which Keeler has granted. Her lawyer, reached Tuesday, had no immediate comment on Cleary's detention.

After leaving Gettysburg, Cleary earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Santa Clara University, near his family home in California, worked for Tesla, then moved to France for several years, according to his website, which describes his self-published medieval fiction. Keeler, originally from Moorestown, New Jersey, stayed on to graduate from Gettysburg and help lead the women's lacrosse team to a national title.

By 2023, two years after the warrant was filed, Keeler and her lawyers wondered how he was avoiding capture in the age of digital tracking. The U.S. Marshals Service thought he was likely overseas and on the move, even as he was the subject of an Interpol alert called a red notice. □



Students gather for a pro-Palestinian protest at the University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, Tuesday, May 7, 2024.

Associated Press

By **MOLLY QUELL**
Associated Press

THE HAGUE (AP) — The University of Amsterdam canceled classes Tuesday and shut buildings for two days after the latest pro-Palestinian demonstrations over the war in Gaza turned destructive. Protests continued to simmer at several European univer-

sities where students faced off with academic authorities on whether relations with Israel should be broken off or drastically reduced, as the death toll continues to climb during the seven-month Israel-Hamas war. Overall, the protests in Europe have failed to reach the intensity of demonstrations at sev-

Amsterdam university cancels classes after violence erupted at a pro-Palestinian rally

eral U.S. universities. In the Netherlands, the board at the nearly 400-year old University of Amsterdam issued a statement saying it could not guarantee the safety of anyone on campus after a group of masked agitators barricaded doors and spray painted slogans on the walls. The mayhem on Monday followed a peaceful walkout of staff and students against the Israel-Hamas war and the university's response to earlier protests. "They (the university) called in the police after people wouldn't remove their face coverings but the police came in balaclavas," political science professor Enzo Rossio told The

Associated Press, describing Monday's events. He had returned to his office following the walkout, only for the building to be evacuated minutes later.

While standing outside the building, Rossio said he and his wife, who also works for the university, were repeatedly hit by police with batons. Last week, police used a bulldozer to evict demonstrators from an encampment established by students who want the university to cut ties with Israel. The protest was one of many that sprung up around Europe following rallies across college campuses in the United States. Smaller demonstrations have

taken place against the war, both at the University of Amsterdam and at other Dutch universities. But last week's protest grew into the thousands, with demonstrators chanting slogans including, "Palestine will be free!" and "Cops off campus!"

Riot police were called in multiple times to end the demonstrations, leading to aggressive confrontations. "I've never witnessed this kind of violence," history student Marin Kuijt said in an interview. Kuijt said he had regularly attended climate change marches and joined the walkout on Monday to protest against the university and police response. □

Meet Aruba's biggest hero Boy Ecury



(Oranjestad)—This past May 4th, Aruba as well as The Netherlands commemorated those who sadly perished during the Second World War. As is known around the globe, this chapter in world history is one of the most tragic yet, and many soldiers and rebels have died on the frontline during this time.

One of those rebels who have fought against the Nazi regime, was an Aruban named Segundo Jorge Adelberto "Boy" Ecury. Born in Aruba on April 23rd, 1922, Boy spent his childhood on the island, before being sent to The Netherlands by his father when he was 15 years old to continue his studies abroad. This was in 1937, three years before WWII broke out.

During the war, he actively participated in the rebellion in The Netherlands against the Nazi regime, but his rebellious streak and constant drive to fight for justice began even before the war broke out. Being a person of color with a Haitian heritage living in The Netherlands made him vulnerable to discrimination, and this inspired him to be an activist, to stand up and fight against discrimination and oppression.

After seeing the horrific bombings of Rotterdam first-hand, he decided to join the resistance. At the same time, he was still studying and living with family in Tilburg. It was there where he met people who printed and distributed the rebellion newspaper. This would be the first of three rebellion group that he would join throughout his 4-year service to the resistance.

Boy's primary task as member of the group was to distract the German soldiers while others ran into hiding into alleyways. This he was able to do because of his skin color and confronting demeanor. Boy also participated in the multiple sabotaging operations against the German military occupying The Netherlands. These included bombings on German military trucks and trains. The group also helped people go into hiding, as well as opened fire against allies of the Nazi regime. In these operations, Boy really stood out for his cold bloodedness.

In 1943, he received a notice to be placed for work in Germany. This he refused, of course, and went into hiding using multiple addresses in multiple cities. Because he was a

wanted man, he of course could not continue to be active as a rebel. However, stubborn and naturally rebellious as he was, he always tried to join in on the operations regardless.

In 1944, after his friend Luis de Lannoy, a fellow rebel from Curacao, was arrested and executed, he moved to Delft, where he joined his third and last group in Rotterdam. During this time, he wrote a goodbye letter for his family, possibly knowing the risks of him being active again in the big cities.

Eventually, he proved himself right. On November 5th, 1944, Boy Ecury was arrested by German soldiers. He was placed in the "Oranjestad" prison in Scheveningen, The Hague, where he was questioned. Despite being given away by an acquaintance, he himself never gave away the names of his comrades. Famously, he told his cell mate: "I will die with a smile on my face."

On November 6th, 1944, Ecury was executed. He was only 22 years old.

Ecury was buried with military honor. In 1949, the Aruban Government erected a monumental bust of him in front of what is now the linear park trail, and in 1984 he received the Resistance Memorial Cross postmortem.



Boy's life motto was this: "In my father's house, there is no place for a traitor." □

Source: "De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over the geschiedenis van Aruba)" by Evert Bongers.

Aruba to me




ORANJESTAD — You are back or still enjoying your vacation?... we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submit-

ting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitor at Noord!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Distinguished Visitor of Aruba. The honoree was respectfully honored with a certificate acknowledging her years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honor certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three honoring levels are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honoree was:

Distinguished Visitor

Ms. Norma Johanson from Lima, Peru

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and family members bestowed the certificate to the honoree, presented her with memorable gifts, and thanked her for choosing Aruba as her best-loved vacation destination, as her home away from home.

Top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honoree was:

- Aruba's tropical climate.
- Aruba's friendly people.
- Aruba's beaches.
- Aruba feels like home.
- "Love visiting cute Oranjestad".

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □



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Aruban legends: Frenchman's Pass

(Oranjestad)—If you ever plan on taking a group tour of the island, you may pass through the Frenchman's Pass in Balashi. The Frenchman's pass (known to locals as "Franse Pas") remains a mysterious—and spooky—road of which its legend is told from generation to generation.

The history of the Frenchman's pass—and how it got its name—dates back to the colonization era, when the French tried to colonize the island, but were met with an angry mob of indigenous settlers, refusing to give up their land. However, as the French were heavily equipped with

fire arms, the indigenous settlers began to retreat, and hid away in nearby caves. The French colonizers tried to smoke them out of the caves, but the indigenous settlers ended up inhaling too much smoke and most died in those caves. From then on, this passage was known as Frenchman's Pass, and there have been many accounts of spirits roaming the area of Spanish Lagoon.

There are many ghost stories surrounding this area, but one of the most famous one involves a lonely hitchhiker, trying to find a ride back home in the dark rainy night. Sometime after trying to hitch-

hike, the man saw a car approaching, appearing almost ghost-like in the rain. However, since he needed a ride real bad, he didn't think twice and jumped in. But to his horror, he noticed that there was no driver in the front. Paralyzed with fear, he didn't dare to get out, and the car started to move.

When approaching a sharp turn, the hitch hiker braced for impact, but just when he thought the car might drive straight off the road and crash, he saw a hand appear out the window and turn the wheel. For the next few turns, the hand appeared again. After having had enough, the



man decided to jump out and he ran to Santa Cruz. Arriving at a nearby bar, he ordered a drink and began to tell everyone about his experience. Everyone grew quiet, because they realized he wasn't some drunk messing around; he was telling the truth.

Sometime later, two men walked into the bar and one of them noticed the hitchhiker. He called out to his buddy

and said: "Look, there's the idiot who sat in our car when we were pushing it!" French man's pass is one of the few sites on the island that keeps the locals on their toes. While most ghost stories may not have real grounds—or some may even be a set up story for a joke, this pass contributes a lot to our culture of folkloric story-telling. □

Source: visitaruba.com



According to Etnia Nativa, in the 18th century most of the inhabitants of Aruba were indigenous who lived on the north coast, one of the largest communities lived in Alto Vista.

As they were very religious, they had a chief with the name of Antonio Silvester who guided them in the Christian life and it was he who decided to build a stone chapel with a roof of corn rods, which would serve as a place of prayer. In 1750 it was blessed by Father Algemesi

who came from Coro-Venezuela and appointed Domingo Antonio Silvester as the island's first prosecutor in the name of the Spanish crown and Rome. In 1752 the prosecution passed into the hands of Antonio Silvester's son-in-law, Miguel Álvarez, who continued to guide the parishioners in their prayers.

According to the book, The History of Alto Vista by R.H. Nooyen, it is not known when Domingo Antonio Silvester came to Aruba from Venezuela. The elders believe

Alto Vista chapel and its link to Aruba's origins

Antonio was a Spaniard. In 1780, father Joseph Antonio de la Vegal called Bernardino Silvester, one of Antonio's sons with his wife Anna Cathalina Tromp, "neighbors and naturals of the island Aruba" and thus they became natives.

At the end of the eighteen century many inhabitants the island died as a result of the black fever epidemic and since people believed that the Alto Vista area was the most infected, they began to build their homes further south within the Noord area, so the town of Noord began to grow into a community till getting its own Church. However religious festivals continued to be celebrated at this sacred native place, with the custom of arriving in procession to Alto Vista.

Two-hundred years after the

beautiful time of Alto Vista, people can no longer see much of the town of Alto Vista from 1750. With a lot of work they found the old foundations of the Church of the Queen of the Holiest Rosary to build a new chapel on the same place. The entire surrounding area was empty and desolated, making it hard to imagine that Alto Vista was a town at all. A hundred years later, people can see the remains of around twenty houses, some made of stone and others of clay. Nowadays, only around six of these houses remain.

South of the chapel in the yard two graves can be observed, there was the cemetery which father Pablo de Algemesi blessed. It is not certain, but it is believed that the two graves belong to Antonio

Silvester and Miguel Alvares, according to Nooyen. About 50 meters near the chapel there are still the markings of an old house, where Antonio and Bernardino Silvester would have lived. About 200 meters from the chapel there is a water tank which the locals call Tanki Cacique. In the past this tank was closed. But mostly water was brought out from the Poz di Noord, a well dug in the sand.

The chapel can be viewed from basically any point in the north side, even from Paradera and Sero Plat. All the historical remains around the chapel provide us with an idea on how the old people of Alto Vista used to live. Don't miss the opportunity to visit a place of historical significance with a window to Aruba's past. □



Article by Etnia Nativa

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Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels



Donkeys, their arrival to Aruba

Episode CCLIV - 255

Each week, Island Insight shares an Aruban story with you through the eyes of Etnia Nativa, who welcomes island visitors with an experience way beyond tourist attractions. We link readers with the mystical aspects of the island, its native culture, and its traditional heritage. During this episode, we explain the important role that our friends, the donkeys, played in Aruba.

A donkey is an animal that has been mistreated forever. Donkeys (*Equus asinus*) are not native to Aruba and arose from the domestication of the North African wild asses (*Equus africanus*) more than 10,000 years ago, pretty much at the same time as horses in Eurasia. Since then, they have been used as pack animals, mounts, and, dare we say, donkeys, for ridicule!

The first ones to catch the wild asses were the Egyptians; for them, the donkey represented ignorance, which they alluded to by putting an elaborate "donkey's head" on those who, due to their ignorance, deserved it, as they also considered donkeys to be a symbol of strong winds and bad omens and were usually mistreated.

During the Roman Empire, the donkey was not only considered bad luck, but there was also a fable about the god Jupiter, who had sent mortals back on donkeys with "the treasure of eternal youth." However, the long journey tired the donkey, who took the chance to stop and drink some water from a fountain nearby, where a snake was enjoying the freshness of the water. Seeing it, it said, "Donkey, give me that which you are carrying on your back, and I will let you drink from my fountain! So the tired and tied donkey did not hesitate to exchange the treasure of eternal youth it was carrying for a few "sips" of freshwater. From that moment on, snakes obtained the privilege of changing their skin, thus recovering the freshness of youth by shedding their old skin while we mortals aged. Getting closer to the present, around the year 1000 B.C., the donkey became a popular mode of transportation in Egypt, Asia, and Europe, from which



they traveled to America. Aruban donkeys arrived through the Spanish trade with the island, providing personal transportation and manure and being used as pack animals by our forefathers. They were a commodity in those days; since having a large number of donkeys meant that they could be used as an exchange measure when money was scarce. In that way, the fortune of a person, particularly farmers and merchants, could be partly measured by the number of "buricos" –means donkeys in our language Papiamentu–they possessed during Aruba's colonial era.

With the arrival of the automobile, our friend, the donkey, was gradually forgotten. Some were loose; others escaped their owners, forming packs that roamed the northern coastal areas of the island freely and repro-



duced in large numbers. Many were killed by cars during the night. People were also angered when they created havoc by entering plantations, private gardens, and residential areas, eating everything green to the roots, tumbling garbage canisters, etc. Others had the bad luck to be coughed up and sold as animal food for tigers and lions when an occasional traveling circus visited the "happy island." Also, many were killed by dogs' attacks and other accidents.

Today, visiting families and their children do have fun with the burros at the donkey sanctuary. A good-hearted initiative has created a safe haven for Aruba's buricos. In 1997, the "Stichting Salba Nos Burico," aka "Save Our Donkeys Foundation," was established, creating a safe haven for injured or displaced donkeys. Years later, it began to be known as the Donkeys' Sanctuary.

Would you like to know all about Aruba? Get connected to Etnia Nativa, the navel of Aruba and a real hidden island treasure. Discover how this unique place is a repository of scientific knowledge and select collections. Etnia Nativa is a tribute to Aruba's rich history and cultural heritage, involving a beautiful property made only with reused materials and guided tours by the owner, the main cultural columnist of this newspaper, whose native roots date back to 1640. Visitors can enjoy a diverse array of artworks, objects, artifacts, dissected animals, plants, historical colonial furniture, and many more things while diving to the navel of Aruba. Book your visit: WhatsApp +297 592 2702 or etnianativa03@gmail.com



Aruba's cultural and literary development: Then and now

(Oranjestad)—The Aruban culture has seen many substantial developments over the course of a century. With the introduction of the Lago Refinery at the turn of the 20th century, followed by the breakout of the Second World War and the general incentive for political independence during the mid-century, a cultural identity on the island began to take form and have since developed through international and local influences.

In the pre-industrial era of the 19th century, much could not be said about a cultural identity on the island. Still being a part of a Dutch colonial territory at the time, as well as not having political or economic autonomy (Curacao was the center of commerce, cultural life, and political management of the Netherland Antilles at the time), the small population of Aruba consisted mostly of farmers and fishermen, tending to their crops and their cattle, or going out to fish to provide for their family. As Quito Nicolaas states in his article *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* (Literary History of Aruba: Cultural Life), "during the pre-industrial period, there were no significant economic activity that could have created a cultural ambience, with



only one way to generate profit at the time for the subsistence of Aruban families."

It wasn't until the introduction of the Lago Refinery in San Nicolas in 1928, that the island saw a small boom in cultural manifestations and entertainment, as farmers left the 'cunucu' (country) life to work in the refinery, which resulted in Aruba acquiring a different economic pillar. Before this, entertainment and cultural manifestations were mostly experienced by local parishes and the island's elite, who often partook in cultural and entertaining activities around the island, like going to the movie theater or coming together to share poetry on Sundays after church.

Literary life

Throughout the 19th century and up until the 1940s, there were also not much

trace of a cultural climate for the cultural-literary sector on the island. Primary education was introduced on the island in the mid-19th century, followed by secondary and higher education around the late 30's and 40's. It wasn't until the 1950s, with the introduction of the E.R.N.A agreement in 1951 and the signing of the Statute in 1954, which allowed more space for and control over the economic and cultural development of Aruba, that the literary life on the island began to grow substantially compared to decades before. This was in response to local institutions established in the 1940s for cultural and literary growth on the island, but that did not yet capture the attention of the general public. The 1950 brought with it a boom of literary production on the island, like those of V.S. Piternella, as well as migrant authors José

Ramón Vicioso y Rings William Rufus, who have also contributed to the literary development on the island. The literary movement was further promoted by local broadcasters Voz di Aruba and Radio Kelkboom, with their regular broadcast of literary works.

The 50s and 60s also saw the influence of international cultures, especially that of the United States. During this time, because of international influences as well as the continued prosperity of the oil refinery, cultural traditions in Aruba began to really take form and become widespread, as different worldly and local concepts were introduced in the Aruban society. With the establishment of local television broadcast station Tele-Aruba in 1963, and with time and possibilities, local programs such as "Nos Tera" ("Our Land") started to pay more attention to the Aruban culture and worked to form a cultural consciousness within the community. The 1960s also saw the rise of local authors and artists, who were more comfortable in producing works in our native tongue, Papiamentu,

but who also produced works in Spanish, English and Dutch. This new phenomenon was in response to the interaction between economic growth, individual prosperity, cultural life and literary expression.

The 21st century

Nowadays, international influence on our culture is still prevalent, especially those from Latin America, the United States and The Netherlands. Nevertheless, there also exists a strong cultural identity and traditions that are exclusive to the Aruban culture, often manifesting during traditional celebrations, like Dia di San Juan/ Dera Gai (St. John's Day), Dia di Himno y Bandera (National Hymn and Flag Day), Camping during Easter and much more. With the surge of social media in the last decade, artistic voices, especially those of the younger generation, has become even more prevalent and easily accessible to the community of Aruba through online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok. □

Source: *Historia di Literatura Arubiano: E Bida Cultural* by J.R. "Quito" Nicolaas



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Casual talks
6 Soft mineral
10 Roofed patio
11 Temple scroll
12 Wide awake
13 Follow as a result
14 Easy win
15 Soft wool
16 Sense of self
17 Peculiarity
18 Catch some z's
19 Offered in payment
22 Brightly colored
23 Plane part
26 Octopus arm
29 Silent assent
32 Greek consonants
33 That woman
34 Human need
36 Company symbol
37 European fashion center
38 Light lunch
39 Modify
40 Silly

- 41 Bears' lairs
42 Line on a repair bill

DOWN

- 1 Dinner wine
2 Light bulb type
3 Showy flower
4 Field protector
5 Plop down
6 Chinese secret society
7 Hot crime
8 "Little House on the Prairie" girl
9 Low-priced
11 Dime's value
15 Melody
17 City building
20 Period
21 1949 film noir
24 Learned sort
25 Swanky
27 Convent resident
28 Wears away
29 Wanderer
30 Rust, for one
31 "Blowin' in the Wind" singer
35 Openings
36 Turner of movies
38 Tentative taste

A	T	L	A	S		S	T	O	W	S
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U	S	E	U	P		P	A	L	E	R
T	E	R	M	S		T	R	E	S	S

Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9
10						11			
12						13			
14						15			
16					17			18	
19			20				21		
	22					23		24	25
				26		27			28
29	30	31		32				33	
34			35					36	
37							38		
39							40		
41							42		

5-15

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-15

CRYPTOQUOTE

BZOTLP LPDPLNPD DQUP QA
KPL IKQHIP LPJZLFD AQL
FZXD JKPB KPL UQQF UZX
ZYYPLZ OQ RP DQURPL.

— LZIKPG IZLDQB

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: THE WOODS ARE LOVELY, DARK AND DEEP, BUT I HAVE PROMISES TO KEEP, AND MILES TO GO BEFORE I SLEEP — ROBERT FROST

Cruise ship Schedule: May 01 - May 28 2024

TUE	07	CARNIVAL MAGIC	09.00	22.00	C	1
TUE	14	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL HORIZON	08.00 08.00	21.00 22.00	B C	1 1
WED	15	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	21	CELEBRITY BEYOND CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00 13.00	21.00 23.00	B C	1 1
WED	22	CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	C	1
MON	27	ISLAND PRINCESS	09.00	22.00	C	1
TUE	28	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7

Sweltering heat across Asia was 45 times more likely because of climate change, study finds



A man drinks water as he takes a break from cleaning an underground sewage on a hot summer day in Mumbai, India, May 2, 2024.

By **SIBI ARASU**
Associated Press

BENGALURU, India (AP) — Sizzling heat across Asia and the Middle East in late April that echoed last year's destructive swelter was made 45 times more likely in some parts of the continent because of human-caused climate change, a study Tuesday found.

Scorching temperatures were felt across large swaths of Asia, from Gaza in the west — where over 2 million people face clean water shortages, lack of health care and other essentials due to Israeli bombardment — to the Philippines in the southeast, with many parts of the continent experiencing temperatures well above 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) several days in a row. The study was released by the World Weather Attribution group of scientists, who use established climate models to quickly determine whether human-caused climate change played a part in extreme weather events around the world.

In the Philippines, scientists found the heat was so extreme it would have been impossible without human-caused climate change. In parts of the Middle East, climate change increased

the probability of the event by about a factor of five. "People suffered and died when April temperatures soared in Asia," said Friederike Otto, study author and climate scientist at Imperial College in London. "If humans continue to burn fossil fuels, the climate will continue to warm, and vulnerable people will continue to die."

At least 28 heat-related deaths were reported in Bangladesh, as well as five in India and three in Gaza in April. Surges in heat deaths have also been reported in Thailand and the Philippines this year according to the

study.

The heat also had a large impact on agriculture, causing crop damage and reduced yields, as well as on education, with school vacations having to be extended and schools closed in several countries, affecting thousands of students. Myanmar, Laos and Vietnam broke records for their hottest April day, and the Philippines experienced its hottest night ever with a low of 29.8 degrees Celsius (85.6 degrees Fahrenheit). In India, temperatures reached as high as 46 degrees Celsius (115 degrees Fahrenheit). The month was the hottest

Associated Press



April on record globally and the eleventh consecutive month in a row that broke the hottest month record. Climate experts say extreme heat in South Asia during the pre-monsoon season is becoming more frequent and the study found that extreme temperatures are now about 0.85 degrees Celsius (1.5 Fahrenheit) hotter in the region because of climate change.

Internally displaced people, migrants and those in refugee camps were especially vulnerable to the searing temperatures, the study found.

"These findings in scientific terms are alarming," said Aditya Valiathan Pillai, a heat plans expert at New Delhi-based think tank Sustainable Futures Collaborative. "But for people on the ground living in precarious conditions, it could be absolutely deadly." Pillai was not part of the study. □



HEALTH

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EMERGENCY

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Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
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San Nicolas	584 5000
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Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

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Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
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Who's laughing? LateNighter, a digital news site about late-night TV, hopes to buck media trends

By **DAVID BAUDER**
AP Media Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — At first glance, Jed Rosenzweig's new venture would seem like a fool's errand: launching a digital news site during brutal economic times for the media to cover an industry that, by traditional measures, is waning in influence.

That didn't dissuade him. LateNighter, a website and newsletter that follows late-night television comedy, began operations in February. There's been plenty to chew on since then, including Jon Stewart's return to "The Daily Show," John Mulaney's new Netflix show, Jimmy Kimmel's feud with Donald Trump, Conan O'Brien resurfacing online and South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem's emergence as a comic foil. "I haven't come to this project from a business perspective, so much so much as a passion," says Rosenzweig, a veteran entertainment journalist based in Portland, Oregon. "I certainly want it to succeed, and I think it will. ... There's an appetite and a void that we're looking to fill." He hasn't released any metrics that would indicate how the site is catching on. LateNighter is a small operation, with only two full-time employees, and was essentially self-funded. Rosenzweig is also behind the sister website, Primetimer, and the TV Tattle subscription newsletter. His creation and subsequent sale, at an opportune time,



This combination of images shows, from left, Jimmy Fallon, Jimmy Jimmy Kimmel, Seth Meyers, and Stephen Colbert.

of the home entertainment review site High Def Digest gave him some money to invest, although LateNighter will soon take paid ads. His 13-year-old son Lem's obsession with "Saturday Night Live" inspired LateNighter, Rosenzweig says. A couple of influential contributors brought gravitas at the start. Bill Carter, author of "The Late Shift" and one of the industry's most important chroniclers while at The New York Times, is a regular writer. Eric Deggans, TV critic at NPR, has also agreed to do occasional pieces, like an interview with Dulce Sloan of "The Daily Show" that discussed diversity in late-night. "I'm not sure how often I can do stories for them," Deggans says, "but I'm excited by the opportunity to dig deeper into a genre that has helped build so much of the modern comedy world." By television ratings alone, late-night isn't the force it used to be. The quartet of NBC's "Tonight Show," CBS'

"Late Show," ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" and "The Daily Show" collectively averaged 10.5 million viewers a night a decade ago. Now, together they pull in 4.8 million people a night, the Nielsen company said. Ad revenue for the shows dropped by 70% between 2015 and 2023. Asked for an evaluation of LateNighter, former Comedy Central chief executive Doug Herzog said it "seems cool." "And maybe 10 years too late," he added. Yet broadcast network entertainment in general has collapsed with cord-cutting and the rise of programming on streaming services. Mulaney's new effort notwithstanding, streaming hasn't been able to replicate the late-night comedy genre. The first "SNL" cast was dubbed the Not Ready for Prime Time Players in the 1970s; this season, the sketch comedy show is NBC's most-watched entertainment show among viewers under age 50 — better than anything in prime-time.

Associated Press
Besides, television ratings don't reflect the way many people follow late-night stars these days — through highlight clips posted online. "You can make the argument that it's more influential today than it ever has been," Rosenzweig says. In its short life, LateNighter has shown the potential to be a solid, creative news source. It wrote an oral history of a groundbreaking Madonna appearance on David Letterman's show, for instance. After O.J. Simpson died, it wrote about his impact on late-night comedy. The website provides a morning-after recap of late-night monologues — suggested by Kimmel, Rosenzweig says — that has proven so popular that some readers asked for an email alert when it is posted. Carter writes a few times a week, contributing pieces about the history of "SNL" stars appearing at the White House correspondents' dinner, then evaluating Colin

Jost's performance this year. Carter's reputation enabled LateNighter to land an interview with Jimmy Fallon only weeks after the site's start, a signal to the industry to take it seriously. Besides standard news and features, LateNighter crunches numbers looking for trends. Each week, it measures how many minutes "SNL" cast members get on the air and the length of each guest host's monologue (Mikey Day had the most screen time last week, after host Maya Rudolph). It has calculated which weeknight show gets the most laughs per hour (Seth Meyers during the April week that was counted). Through a partnership with Nielsen, it regularly publishes late-night ratings. Ten minutes after each new "SNL" episode concludes, LateNighter hosts a livestream where panelists and readers weigh in on what went right and wrong. A separate Monday roundtable, whose host Jon Schneider boasts of seeing every episode since the show's 1975 premiere, dissects things in minute detail — even wondering whether Dua Lipa's show suffered because one particular writer missed a day of work. The roundtables can last longer than the "SNL" episode itself. Comedian Mark Malkoff will soon debut a regular podcast about the weeknight comedy shows. □



Saxophonist David Sanborn performs on the Stravinski Hall stage at the 43rd Montreux Jazz Festival in Montreux, Switzerland on July 9, 2009.

Associated Press

David Sanborn, Grammy-winning saxophonist who played on hundreds of albums, dies at 78

NEW YORK (AP) — David Sanborn, the Grammy-winning saxophonist who played lively solos on such hits as David Bowie's "Young Americans" and James Taylor's "How Sweet It Is (To Be Loved By You)" and enjoyed his own highly successful recording career as a performer of melodic, contemporary jazz, has died at age 78. A spokesperson confirmed that Sanborn died Sunday in Tarrytown, New York. The cause was

complications from prostate cancer. "The news of the loss of David Sanborn to the music world has deeply saddened me," pianist Bob James, who collaborated with Sanborn on the Grammy-winning "Double Vision" album, wrote on Facebook. "I was so privileged to share major highlights of my career in partnership with him. His legacy will live on through the recordings. Every note he played came straight from

his heart, with a passionate intensity that could make an ordinary tune extraordinary." Equally versatile and prolific, Sanborn enjoyed rare fame and popularity for a saxophone player. He released eight gold albums and one platinum album; sat in frequently with the "Late Night With David Letterman" band led by Paul Shaffer; and even co-hosted a show, "Night Music," that included appearances by Miles Davis, Eric Clapton, Lou Reed

and many others. "Jazz has always transformed and absorbed what's around it," he told DownBeat magazine in 2017. "Real musicians don't have any time to spend thinking about limited categories." A native of Tampa, Florida, whose family moved to Kirkwood, Missouri, Sanborn took up the saxophone as a boy after recovering from a severe bout with polio and being advised by a doctor to strengthen his lungs. □

Tiger Woods is still deciding whether he has time to be Ryder Cup captain

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Tiger Woods brings a lot of uncertainty to Valhalla for the PGA Championship. Some of that has to do with his achy body. And some of that involved the Ryder Cup.

The PGA of America still has not settled on a captain for the 2025 matches at Bethpage Black, with Woods as the most obvious candidate. Seth Waugh, CEO of the PGA of America, had said he would be speaking to Woods.

"We're still talking," Woods said Tuesday. "There's nothing that has been confirmed yet. We're still working on what that might look like — also whether or not I have the time to do it."

The PGA of America typically announces the Ryder Cup captain well before the Masters of the preceding year. Zach Johnson was announced in February 2022 for last year's Ryder Cup.

Woods, who has teed it up only twice this year going into the PGA Championship, is keeping plenty busy off the golf course. He was appointed to the PGA Tour board last summer and has been a central voice in meetings. Woods also is on the committee that is meeting with the Public Investment Fund of Saudi Arabia about becoming a minority investor.



Tiger Woods speaks during a news conference at the PGA Championship golf tournament at the Valhalla Golf Club, Tuesday, May 14, 2024, in Louisville, Ky.

Associated Press

The U.S. Ryder Cup captain, whoever that is, has a lot of promoting to do, which includes a "one year out" event at Bethpage Black in September.

"I need to feel that I can give the amount of time that it deserves," said Woods, who won his second U.S. Open at Bethpage Black in 2002. Woods had mixed memories when he returned to Valhalla. He played a practice round late last week and was on the course the past two days. Heavy thunderstorms shut the course for a few hours on Tuesday.

There was 2000, where he made what he still considers the most pressure-filled putt of his career. He had a fabulous duel with unheralded Bob May, ending with Woods having to make a 6-foot birdie putt on the last hole to force a playoff. And there was 2014, when he was trying to recover from the first of four back surgeries. Woods had to withdraw the previous week at Firestone, and he didn't come close to making the cut at Valhalla. "At that time I was maybe one back procedure into it. Now it's a hell of a lot more

than that number," he said. "Back is now fused, as you know. Yeah, coming into 2014, I wasn't feeling very good. But I'm always going to feel soreness and stiffness in my back, but that's OK. Just need other body parts to start feeling better." He also needs more than two good rounds. Woods set a Masters record this year by making the cut for the 24th consecutive time, but he followed with an 82 in the third round and wound up in last place among those who made the cut. He has not played since

then.

"I still feel that I can win golf tournaments. I still feel I can hit the shots and still feel like I still have my hand around the greens and I can putt," Woods said. "I just need to do it for all four days, not like I did at Augusta for only two." As for his other job, Woods didn't reveal much about discussions with PIF or any of the obstacles in the way of the sport somehow being reunited. He described negotiations as fluid, with plenty of work ahead.

"It may not be giant steps, but we're making steps," he said.

He also said he was surprised by the resignation Monday of Jimmy Dunne, a PGA Tour board member and key architect of the June 6 framework agreement with the Saudis.

Dunne said that with the balance now tilting toward players over business leaders on the PGA Tour board, he felt his input was "superfluous." Woods was asked if golfers were best suited to handle business dealings of the PGA Tour.

"Well, the PGA Tour is for the players and by the players. So, we have an influence and there's roles for the player directors and there's roles for the independents," he said. "We're trying to make the PGA Tour the best it can be day in and day out."



France's Valentin Paret-Peintre celebrates winning the 10th stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race from Pompei to Cusano Mutri, Italy, Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

Associated Press

CUSANO MUTRI, Italy (AP)

— Valentin Paret-Peintre emulated his older brother by winning a Giro d'Italia stage on Tuesday for his first professional victory.

Paret-Peintre shook his head in disbelief as he approached the summit finish and then sat up, encouraged the crowd to cheer even louder, and whirled his arm above his

Paret-Peintre emulates older brother by winning a Giro d'Italia stage

head as he reveled in the victory on the 10th stage. He finished 29 seconds ahead of French compatriot and idol Romain Bardet on the short but sharp 142-kilometer (88-mile) route from Pompei that ended with a top-classified climb to Bocca della Selva in Cusano Mutri.

"To be honest, I can't describe what I feel now, it's just amazing," the 23-year-old Paret-Peintre said. "I was there to get a good result in the stage and why not win? Now I have a stage win for my first pro win, it's amazing."

"I grew up watching Romain Bardet fight for the podium at the Tour de France. He made

me dream of becoming a professional cyclist. To beat him today is incredible." Jan Tratnik was 1:01 behind in third. The Slovenian cyclist was out front alone for most of the final 40 kilometers before being caught and passed when Paret-Peintre attacked Bardet with three kilometers remaining.

Aurélien Paret-Peintre, who is five years older than Valentin, won the fourth stage of last year's Giro. He is also riding in this race and was beaming in celebration of his brother's victory.

"Last year when he won they did the bottle of champagne with my name on it,

they made a mistake," the younger Paret-Peintre said. "Today we'll see if they do it with his."

After being happy to let a large breakaway go, Tadej Pogacar and the rest of the contenders crossed the line 3:14 behind Paret-Peintre. Pogacar remained the overall leader, 2 minutes, 40 seconds ahead of Daniel Martinez and 2:58 ahead of last year's runner-up Geraint Thomas. Wednesday's 11th stage is a 207-kilometer (129-mile) route from Foiano di Val Fortore that features just one third-category climb before it heads along the Adriatic coast to Francavilla al Mare.



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Patrick Mahomes vs. Joe Burrow showdown coming in Week 2 as NFL continues releasing its schedule

NEW YORK (AP) — First, Lamar Jackson. Then, Joe Burrow.

The two-time defending Super Bowl champion Chiefs face a daunting test in opening their season after CBS unveiled Kansas City's Week 2 opponent as being the Cincinnati Bengals on Tuesday. The league also announced Aaron Rodgers and the New York Jets will open their season on ESPN's Monday Night Football on Sept. 9 in traveling to play the NFC champion San Francisco 49ers.

Prime Video later announced it's Thursday Night Football schedule will open in Week 2 with an AFC East showdown featuring the Miami Dolphins hosting the Buffalo Bills on Sept. 12.

The Bengals, with Burrow as their quarterback again following a season-ending wrist injury, will travel to play at Kansas City in a late-afternoon outing on Sept. 15. The matchup follows the league's announcement on Monday



Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes (15) throws a pass during the second half of the AFC Championship NFL football game against the Baltimore Ravens, in Baltimore, Sunday, Jan. 28, 2024.

Associated Press

of the Chiefs opening the NFL schedule hosting the Jacksonville Jaguars on Sept. 5 in a rematch of last season's AFC title game.

The meeting against the Bengals brings together two teams who met in consecutive AFC championships, with Cincinnati winning in 2021 and the Chiefs winning the following season.

The NFL is releasing highlighted portions of its schedule in advance of the league revealing its full slate of games on Wednesday night.

The Jets are opening on Monday Night Football for a second consecutive season following a 22-16 overtime win over the Buffalo Bills last year, in what became Rodgers' celebrated but injury-

abbreviated New York debut. Rodgers attempted one pass, which went incomplete, during a first series which ended with him tearing his left Achilles tendon. He was sidelined for the rest of the season.

Rodgers is on track to return to practice without limitations once the Jets begin voluntary spring sessions next week. This season marks Prime's third since taking over the Thursday night broadcast, and kicks off with a rematch of last season's finale in which Josh Allen and the Bills defeated the Dolphins 21-14 to clinch Buffalo its fourth consecutive AFC East title. It also relegated Miami to the AFC's sixth playoff seed. Buffalo has won four consecutive meetings and 11 of 12 against Miami, including a wild-card playoff victory two years ago.

The league previously announced that the Green Bay Packers would be facing the Philadelphia Eagles in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on Sept. 6.

It will be the first time the NFL has played a game on Friday night of opening weekend in more than 50 years.

The game will be streamed on Peacock, and also air on the NBC affiliates in Philadelphia, Green Bay and Milwaukee. Also, Tom Brady's broadcast debut with Fox will be on Sept. 8 when the Dallas Cowboys open at the Cleveland Browns. It is the first time since 2019 that the Cowboys have not had a prime time kickoff in Week 1.

In a departure from past seasons, CBS and Fox will not both have a doubleheader in Week 1. Fox has it for the opening week followed by CBS in Week 2.

The league will announce the dates and opponents for the four international games in Europe on Wednesday morning. Jacksonville, Minnesota and Chicago are the designated home teams for the London contests and Carolina will head to Munich, Germany. □

Daniil Medvedev latest to crash out of Italian Open after loss to Tommy Paul

ROME (AP) — The curse of the defending champion struck again for Daniil Medvedev. The second-seeded Medvedev has never successfully defended a title and he failed again on Tuesday as he lost 6-1, 6-4 to American Tommy Paul to become the latest top player to crash out of the Italian Open.

"It's disappointing, to be honest," said Medvedev, who

has won 20 tour-level titles. "I wanted to do better here. I was not even close. What can I say? The more titles I win, the more chances I have to defend.

"So the more tournaments in a year I'm going to play where I already won, maybe not defend, but at least win twice the same tournament, that's what I'm going to try to do."

The opener lasted just 28 minutes as the 14th-seeded Paul broke Medvedev on all three of his service games and then served out the set to love.

"Was a tough one. Mentally I had to be much better," Medvedev said. "I started to calm myself down and focus on the match only at the end of the match, and it was too late. I had to do better. I was expecting myself

to play better."

Medvedev improved slightly in the second set when he broke immediately but Paul broke straight back and never looked back, securing his spot in the quarterfinals when Medvedev sent a backhand long. The second-seeded Medvedev followed 10-time champion Rafael Nadal and top-ranked Novak Djokovic with early exits in Rome. □



Russia's Daniil Medvedev returns the ball to United States' Tommy Paul at the Italian Open tennis tournament in Rome, Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

Associated Press



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